

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 011837

62-L
ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 SPC-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 SY-10 USSS-00 /093 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:EPDJEREJIAN:EW
APPROVED BY NEA:RPDAVIES
EUR/SOV:JFMATLOCK
NEA/ARM:DAKORN
NEA: AMB GODLEY
S/CCT: AMB HOFFACKER

----- 019108

R 182124Z JAN 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T STATE 011837

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, LE, US, UR
SUBJ: LEFTIST PRESS CAMPAIGN AGAINST AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE
GODLEY
REF: BEIRUT 622

1. DEPTOFF (NEA/ARN) TOOK OPPORTUNITY PERIODIC CALL BY
SOVIET EMBASSY ATTACHE KOROLEV TO RAISE INFORMALLY LEFTIST
PRESS CAMPAIGN IN LEBANON AGAINST AMBASSADOR GODLEY'S
APPOINTMENT. DEPTOFF TOLD KOROLEV WE HAD GOOD REASON TO
BELIEVE THAT COORDINATED PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN IN LEBANON
AGAINST AMBASSADOR GODLEY'S APPOINTMENT WAS INSPIRED
LARGELY BY SOVIET AMBASSADOR AZIMOV. DEPTOFF
CHARACTERIZED THESE ACTIVITIES AS IRRESPONSIBLE AND
CERTAINLY DETRIMENTAL TO GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIPS THAT
PRESENTLY PREVAIL BETWEEN AMERICAN AND SOVIET DIPLOMATS.

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MADE CLEAR THAT AMBASSADOR GODLEY HAD SERVED IN SOME VERY

DIFFICULT POSTS SUCH AS CONGO AND VIENTIANE, BUT THAT HE CERTAINLY WAS NOT A "COUNTER-TERRORIST" AS PORTRAYED BY THIS LEFTIST PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN IN BEIRUT. EMPHASIZED THAT U.S. POLICY TOWARDS LEBANON WHICH IS BASED ON TRADITIONAL TIES OF FRIENDSHIP WOULD CONTINUE UNDER AMBASSADOR GODLEY'S MANDATE AND THAT PRESS REPORTS THAT HIS MISSION WAS TO INVOLVE THE USG IN COUNTER-TERRORIST ACTIVITIES ARE CLEARLY FALLACIOUS.

2. KOROLEV EXPRESSED DISBELIEF THAT SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN BEIRUT INVOLVED IN SUCH ACTIVITIES, SAID HE WOULD LOOK

INTO THE MATTER AND THAT WE SHOULD NOT WORRY ABOUT ANY FURTHER ACTIVITIES OF THIS NATURE ON THE PART OF AZIMOV. KOROLEV CONFIDED THAT AZIMOV HAD BEEN IN BEIRUT MUCH TOO LONG AND MAY HAVE A BAD CASE OF "LOCALITIS."

3. COMMENT: SHOULD SOVIET OR OTHERS IN BEIRUT OR IN INFO POSTS RAISE FOREGOING SUBJECT, U.S. REPS MAY WISH TO TAKE LINE SIMILAR TO THAT TAKEN BY DEPTOFF WITH SOVIET ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON. ATTITUDE SHOULD BE ONE OF SORROW RATHER THAN ANGER AT PETTINESS OF THIS SOVIET-INSPIRED PRESS CAMPAIGN. RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, PRESS COMMENTS, ESPIONAGE AGENTS, EXTREMISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PFOR, LE, US, UR, (GODLEY, G MCMURTRIE)
To: BEIRUT
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